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Western Archives, Western University

February 21st/1916.

My Dear Ibb & Wood,-

Week ending February 19th.

February 14th.
Monday

Booked orders to-day for one 34" x 10', One 36" x 10' and one 66"x14". We had a lot of breaks in the machine shop to-day which hindreed our progress very much, they were practically from belts.

February 15th.
Tuesday

Attended Huron & Erie Board meeting but very little business being done the prospects are that we will have to borrow money on Debentures in New York instead of the Old Country. These rates will be much higher than heretofore and it is doubtful whether we can get enough in Canada to make it pay, however we will not cross the bridge until we come to it.

February 16th.
Wednesday

We have carefully gone over our output of 60 lb. shells and think we can do as follows. February 800 shells - March 6000 shells - April 7200. Total 14,000, we are afraid that this will not be satisfactory to the New Munitions Board but we will see later.

It appears from the Sir Thomas White's financial speech in Ottawa that we will be taxed 25% of our profits on our output of Munitions and also 7% on our Capital Invested, the latter part is troubling us considerably as our tools account is if anything over valued according to our appraisalment as we are sure that we could not get the value under ordinary circumstances but for the demand for lathes especially has increased so much that our old tools would sell in some cases for double what we have them down at. The ^{older} Gisholt lathes we bought are worth 75% more to-day, in fact they are selling at the same price as new, we will have to look further into this. I enclose a clipping which outlines the proposition, many points which are not clear to any of us, so we will have to trust that we will not be taxed as much as first intimated.

February 17th.
Thursday.

We had a long distance telephone from T.Allan McAvity, who has a position as Secy. under Flavelle of the Imperial Munition Board intimating that on the 1st of April we would get a cut in our price (\$6.90) of 60// shells which made us very anxious and discouraged, subsequently we got a letter from him that don't sound so bad and which we are answering as per copy enclosed, if they cut the price we will be very mad as we do not think it at all fair as we have dropped our entire position East & West as much in a Patriotic sense as in a business sense, will advise you later. Got an order for a small 4 H.P. Upright Boiler from Vickers Ltd. Montreal.

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Friday 18th.
February

Paid \$2905.00 to 125 men including \$467. bonus, this week we were able to have nearly all our machines working consequently bonus is middling large. Received a letter from C.Plant asking for salary to be restored which we consented to do.

Received orders to-day for a 13 x 12 Leonard Clipper from Plant and a 10 H.P.Dairy, both in stock Montreal, also a 5 x 4 Vertical to go down to Halifax, all of these are on hand.

Received three dozen of Battery wheel small pictures which will be sent this week in two or three parcels as requested by E.W.L.

Saturday 19th
February.

Had some delay in adjusting our hydraulic press, however got it started and it worked until midnight satisfactorily.

Sunday 20th
February.

Had a call from Major Bishop of the Headquarters Staff here, who informed us that he is laying plans for a very large camp for the coming summer.